

CMAP Working Committees & Citizens' Advisory Committee meeting summaries

Citizens' Advisory Committee

At its February 2nd meeting, the CAC tentatively appointed Bill Balling as co-chairman. Lacking a quorum, however, a binding vote could not be taken. A new member, Robert Munson of Chicago was seated and the committee asked that the chairmen send letters asking inactive members to resign. The committee received updates from Executive Director Randy Blankenhorn on the Obama Administration's economic stimulus program and the status of the Canadian National Railway purchase of the EJ&E. The CAC had a lengthy discussion on its role in the *GOTO2040* planning process.

Economic & Community Development

Staff Contact: Brian Rademacher

The Economic and Community Development Committee met on Tuesday, January 27th. In previous meetings, the committee had expressed concern about its role in the overall planning process. In response, CMAP staff gave a detailed overview on the approach to economic development in the *GO TO 2040* process. The internal work related to economic development included an industrial cluster report, a white paper on economic development incentives and the development of measures to evaluate transportation project proposals. External work included forecasts of employment, reports on innovation, telecommunications, green jobs, and export promotion. Additional work contracted through the Chicago Community Trust covers researching education and workforce development. Staff suggested that the working committee will be expected to provide feedback and offer assistance as the projects move forward. The committee was briefed on the proposed economic stimulus package and the role of CMAP in this process. A draft of recommended criteria designed to assist agencies align their goals and projects with the goals of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan was presented. Committee members would welcome regular updates on CMAP's role as they become available. The committee was reminded of a workshop that will be held on February 9th at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago – Moving Forward Together, designed to promote awareness and encourage more involvement from minority communities in the *GO TO 2040 (VAMOS AL AÑO 2040)* planning process. Committee members were encouraged to attend. The next Economic and Community Development Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday February 24th at the CMAP offices.

Environment & Natural Resources

Staff Contact: Jesse Elam

The Environment and Natural Resources Committee met on February 4th. The first portion of the meeting was spent discussing the draft Developments of Regional Importance process, with updates to the ENR Committee regarding the Programming Committee's decisions about how to proceed with the DRI process. The ENR Committee agreed to develop a number of broad recommendations for revising the DRI process and to have them ready, if possible, for the February Programming Committee meeting. The committee was also updated on work being undertaken on regional food systems planning by CMAP, Chicago Community Trust, the Chicago Food Policy Advisory Council, and the City of Chicago. The remainder of the committee meeting was a web seminar on the conservation design strategy

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for the *GO TO 2040* Plan. Notes from that session will be posted at <http://www.goto2040.org/panel.aspx>.

Housing

Staff Contact: Lee Deuben

The CMAP Housing committee met on Thursday, January 15th. Bob Dean provided an update on recent *GO TO 2040* initiatives including the strategy panel discussions and the process for integrating strategies into scenario development. Dean also provided the committee with an update of the Federal Economic Recovery Package and CMAP's initiative to develop potential project evaluation criteria that focuses on the intent of the package- job creation, energy conservation, and economic growth. Lisa Tapper of the Lake County Affordable Housing Corporation discussed Lake County's new housing preservation initiative, soliciting comments and feedback from committee members on how to best approach the project and acquire pertinent data to develop preliminary research. Housing committee members representing the Chicago area's homebuilders, Paul Colgan, Adam Dontz, and Dan Ungerleider provided a brief recap on housing activity during 2008 and an overview of what can be expected moving forward. They painted a fairly dire picture and stressed that now is the time to get municipalities and homebuilders communicating and working together in order to get developments in the region moving again. Lee Deuben and Beth Dever provided an update on the agency's foreclosure and Neighborhood Stabilization Program initiatives, reminding committee members that the third in a series of three events on NSP, the 4th Annual Mayors and Developers Forum, would take place at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago on Tuesday, January 28th. Housing committee chair, Adam Gross of Business and Professional People's in the Public Interest (BPI) presented a memo on draft legislation concerning municipal authority and foreclosures, an initiative that is a direct result of CMAP and the Mayors Caucus involvement in developing strategies for municipalities to deal with foreclosures within their communities. He solicited comments and suggestions from housing committee members. The proposed legislation was enthusiastically received and supported by committee members. BPI will be moving forward with introducing this new legislation in the spring legislative session.

Human Services

Staff Contact: Russell Pietrowiak

The Human Services Committee met on February 9th. Highlights from the meeting included a discussion on the economic stimulus package under consideration by Congress and a presentation by Dennis Smith from the Northern Illinois Food Bank on hunger issues as they relate to the *GO TO 2040* plan. The committee was also provided with updates on the status of two-eleven efforts and the Chicago Community trust/CMAP partnership. The next meeting is scheduled for March 9th.

Land Use

Staff Contact: Ty Warner

At their January 21st meeting, the Land Use Committee was introduced to CMAP's proposed role and priorities in response to the Economic Recovery Act. The Committee also began to re-assess its membership, overall member composition, and its general focus, having marked

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18 months since the Committee first started meeting on its own (independent from the former NIPC Planning Committee). Finally, the Committee hosted the webinar on Brownfields Remediation. A webinar on strategies for Parks will take place at the Committee's next meeting February 18th.

Transportation

Staff Contact: Teri Dixon

The Transportation Committee met January 16th and released the Biannual TIP/RTP Conformity Analysis and TIP Amendments for a 30-day public comment period from January 16th to February 15th. Input and comments on the readability of the reports was solicited. The Enhancement Program (ITEP) was discussed. Currently, \$33 million in unobligated balances exist for ITEP. There are many challenges for this program, including an irregular call for projects. One suggestion was that the MPO select which projects are funded by enhancement. NIPRC reported that Indiana had just moved to sub-allocation of enhancement funds and received \$1.9 million. It was decided that the MPO Policy Committee's SAFETEA-LU Subcommittee should meet to discuss TEA 4 and its implications for the region, including ITEP. The Economic Recovery Package was discussed as CMAP has released two documents regarding their involvement in the Economic Recovery Package [infrastructure principals](#) for investments funded by the Economic Recovery Package and [CMAP's potential role](#) in the development of projects of the Economic Recovery Package. Again, the committee asked that the SAFETEA-LU Subcommittee meet to further discuss the package, infrastructure principals and CMAP's potential role. A draft of recommended CMAQ programming changes is being developed by the CMAQ Project Selection Committee. The changes being discussed are intended to create a more effective programming process to assure that the region gets the congestion reduction and air quality improvements projects more quickly and does not include a large amount of unobligated funding in danger of being lost to the region. The draft recommendations were considered for final approval at the January 30, 2009 CMAQ meeting and will be brought to the March Transportation Committee meeting its approval. A presentation about Congestion Scans was made. CMAP's 2007 freeway performance measures and other data sources were used to create them. Providing a careful analysis of regional freeway congestion for CMAP as part of the Congestion Management Process, the analysis facilitates good infrastructure decisions. A detailed explanation of each measure along with all data associated with CMAP's 2007 freeway performance measures are posted on the Web at <http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/cmp/measurement.aspx>

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